

Focus on FST

FST Leads Effort to Rescue Dolphin Stranded in the Pearl River

A young Atlantic bottlenose dolphin stranded in the Pearl River for three months following Hurricane Katrina was safely rescued and returned to his saltwater home Nov. 30 in a multi-agency effort initiated by the Fleet Survey Team (FST).

The five-foot-long male dolphin that apparently washed upriver from the Gulf of Mexico Aug. 29 was first spotted by LT James Coleman of FST. Coleman initially found the dolphin while conducting hydrographic surveys up the river in early October. "I began seeing it regularly in the river near Stennis," he said. "Apparently, it had been there since the hurricane."

Coleman continued to follow the animal's whereabouts and contacted the

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries Service. He then served as the point of contact at SSC for federal agencies involved in the rescue.

"LT Coleman kept a close watch on the displaced dolphin and started the ball rolling for this rescue," said Cmdr. Todd Monroe, FST commanding officer.

Marine mammal experts from several states traveled to Mississippi to help rescue the dolphin stranded about 10 miles upriver from the Gulf of Mexico. They included representatives from NOAA's Fisheries Service and the National Ocean Service.

A 16-member team accomplished the three-hour rescue effort with three boats and a 400-foot net that was spread in the river. Once the dolphin became ensnared in the net, it was rolled onto a Navy boat piloted by LTJG David Colbert of FST. Rescuers then gingerly snipped the net off the dolphin and began transport procedures.

The dolphin was wrapped in protective covering, placed on a foam mattress in a van and successfully released into the Mississippi Sound at Gulfport Harbor.

Blair Mase, southeast regional marine mammal stranding coordinator for NOAA Fisheries Service, said dolphins can tolerate fresh water only for a limited period.

The dolphin suffered skin lesions after being out of its natural saltwater



After his rescue, the dolphin was released into the Mississippi Sound in Gulfport.

habitat for an extended period. Had it remained in fresh water much longer, the lesions and eye problems could have endangered its life, experts said.

"Aside from the lesions, he appears in good health," said Forrest Townsend, a marine mammal veterinarian who participated in the rescue.

"The FST's normal duties include deploying worldwide to conduct shallow-water surveys supporting Department of Defense warfighters," Monroe said, "but we were happy to be of assistance with the rescue. Like many of us on the Gulf Coast, our dolphin is recovering from Hurricane Katrina and is moving forward."



Divers and other rescuers safely recover the stranded Atlantic bottlenose dolphin.

Naval Oceanographic Office *Ocean Frontier*

Ocean Frontier is published bi-monthly through the U.S. Government Printing Office and is financed by appropriated funds for the civilian and military personnel at the Naval Oceanographic Office.

Items in *Ocean Frontier* cannot be construed to change or modify any official directive. All pictures are official Navy photographs unless otherwise indicated.

The *Ocean Frontier* address is:

Naval Oceanographic Office, Public Affairs
1002 Balch Boulevard
Stennis Space Center, MS 39522-5001
Telephone (228) 688-5649

Captain Andrew Brown III, USN, Commanding Officer
Lanee Cooksey, Managing Editor
Shannon Breland, Editor
Jim Welsh, Contributing Writer

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

Naval Oceanographic Office
1002 Balch Boulevard
Stennis Space Center, MS 39522-5001

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 1735
PHOENIX, AZ



Naval Oceanographic Office

OCEAN FRONTIER

www.navo.navy.mil

Maximizing America's Sea Power

Jan/Feb/Mar 2006

NAVO Participates In NATO Undersea Research Center AUV Planning

By NAVOCEANO and Commander, MIW Command

Personnel from NAVOCEANO, Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City, Hydroid, Inc. and the Commander, Mine Warfare Command (CMWC) Unmanned Underwater Vehicle (UUV) Platoon participated in a collaborative experimentation conducted at the NATO Undersea Research Center (NURC) in La Spezia, Italy in December.

The primary objectives of the experiment were to assist in testing the NATO prototype Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV) planning and evaluation tool and develop tactics, techniques and procedures for employment of small UUVs from Surface Mine Countermeasures (SMCM) Vessels.

Members of the UUV Platoon operated two Remote Environmental Monitoring Units (REMUS) vehicles equipped with a sidescan sonar from NURC's *R/V Leonardo*.

During the event, the combined teams carried out key MCM tasks such as searching for and classifying mine-like contacts and "bottom mapping" the ocean floor to facilitate seabed classification, clutter density estimation and other tactical objectives.

Aboard *R/V Leonardo*, NAVOCEANO's Chris Coward supported the UUV Platoon by processing the REMUS data to derive roughness and clutter categories and perform change detection.

This experiment and associated data collection and analysis directly satisfy See **Mine Warfare**, page 7.



NAVO Kicks Off Its 175th Year

Oceanographer of the Navy RDML Byus serves as guest speaker at December anniversary event



NAVOCEANO's current Commanding Officer CAPT Andrew Brown and former commanding officers, CAPT Larry Warrenfeltz (Ret.), RDML Tim McGee and CAPT Jeffrey Best share the anniversary cake-cutting duties.



Rear Admiral Fred Byus, Oceanographer of the Navy, served as guest speaker at the anniversary.

On Tuesday, December 6, 2005, NAVOCEANO officially celebrated 175 years of Naval oceanography with a visit by Oceanographer of the Navy RDML Fred Byus.

Plans for the 175th year include a January birthday celebration for

Matthew Fontaine Maury, the founding father of oceanography, and a May event commemorating the 30 years NAVOCEANO has been in the south Mississippi community. Other events commemorating NAVOCEANO's rich 175-year history will be conducted throughout the year.

News About the News

Saving Trees...and Money

Ocean Frontier Newsletter will now be online only

This will be the last hardcopy edition of the *Ocean Frontier* newsletter. Beginning with the April/May edition, the newsletter will be available only online at <https://www.navo.navy.mil>.

A link to the new colorful and user-friendly *Ocean Frontier* will be emailed to employees for each edition.

For those of you who currently receive the *Ocean Frontier* via the U.S. Postal

Service and would like to receive the online newsletter via email, send your contact information to Shannon.Breland@navy.mil or call (228) 688-4002.

Printouts of the online newsletter can be mailed to those recipients who do not have Internet access.

PDF versions of past newsletters are currently available on the NAVOCEANO Web site.

From the Commanding Officer

Be Proud of Your Contributions

Greetings all. We are now well into February 2006. We've made it safely through the holidays and are ready to put Mardi Gras in our collective rear-view mirror. On that subject, there has been much discussion on the appropriateness of celebrating this event given the ongoing Katrina recovery efforts. I'm not certain there will ever be a solid consensus on this, either here in the local area or across the country at large.

I participated in the Nereids parade this past weekend. Initially, I had ambivalent feelings about taking part in this year's event. Debris is still everywhere; homes, schools and businesses are still in a state of disrepair; and many people are still in desperate, personal need.

Nonetheless, I joined the Fleet Survey Team and other NAVOCEANO employees in manning a makeshift float consisting of our flatbed stake truck towing the FST RHIB. I have to say that I am extremely glad I did.

To all of those who had a part in setting this up and moving it forward—thank you. I can only speak for myself,

but I'm sure others share this feeling—It was such an overwhelming shot in the arm to see everyone taking a well-deserved break from the often burdensome reality we all are living as we work through this lengthy recovery.

I was deeply touched by the many folks who came up to us wishing to convey their thanks for our collective service—clearly a thanks bestowed on all of us in the service of our country, civilian and military alike.

In carrying out our mission, all of us at NAVOCEANO have committed to the service of our country. That commitment is evident daily as we support those who train and fight in the defense of our liberty.

No ship gets underway, no aircraft flies, no submarine operates, no special operation is undertaken without critical environmental data that have been collected, analyzed and made relevant with expert knowledge added from this organization. You all can be very proud of your contribution in bringing that valuable information to our warfighting forces.

As you get out to enjoy this year's



CAPT Andrew Brown III

Mardi Gras festivities, take pride in the knowledge that you play an important role in the defense of our great county.

Also take a moment to acknowledge and honor those who serve us by putting themselves in harm's way so that we can take some time to relax and enjoy the benefits of freedom and liberty.

Volunteering

Thank you to all military and civilian personnel for starting the year off right by volunteering in the community!

Regional Competition of the National Ocean

Sciences Bowl

- Shannon Breland
- Pam Buehler
- Jackie Bussell
- Jeikook Choi
- B.J. Dauro
- Russell Dobyn
- Katherine Foster
- CAPT Pete Furze

We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give.
—Winston Churchill

In the arena of human life, the honors and rewards fall to those who show their good qualities in action.

—Aristotle

- Bruce Gomes
- Pete and Kay Hanson
- Michael Jeffries
- Mary Jones
- Jerry and Marilyn Leone
- Tracy LePire
- John Lever
- Kim Maddox
- Dr. Kevin Mahoney
- Dr. Robin McCall
- Kay McGovern
- Kristie Nichols
- LTJG Patrick and Becky Nissen

Personal Excellence Program

- Marvin Arnold
- Jennifer Bivens-Bowers
- Martin Booda
- John Brusstar
- James Cape
- Dr. Robert Carter
- Lee Chambers
- Matthew Eckhoff
- Keith Evans
- AG1 Adam Froehlig

Be the change you want to see in the world.
—Gandhi

- John Pope
- Leslie Sivak
- Bobbie Thompson
- Jay Wallmark

No man can become rich without himself enriching others.

—Andrew Carnegie

- Mike Hallal
- LTJG Heather Hornick
- Mike Jugan
- Dennis Krynen
- David L'Heureux
- Dr. Kevin Mahoney
- Andrea Meranto
- Mary Mitchell
- Megan Natter
- Charles O'Chery
- Dan Olszewski
- ENS Jeff Portell
- Lamar Russell
- Rebecca Smith
- Scott Wallace
- Lauri Zeller

Awards

Civilian Length of Service

35 Years
Howard Jack
David Somers

30 Years
Glennette Alford
Dan Mabie

25 Years
Peter Gruzinskas
Debra Poffenberger
Richard Swanson
William Thompson
Randy White

20 Years
John Campbell Jr.
Mona Collins

Paula Costello
Christopher Diamond
Elizabeth Horton
Ashok Kalra
Charles Kelley
Margaret Schexnayder
Hobart Shaw
Glenn Villemarette
William Wood Jr.

15 Years
John Dubberly
Samuel Hernandez
Lucille Jones
Lisa Klingenger
Bruce McKenzie
Lolita Slack
Alma Thomas
Eric Villalobos

10 Years
Amos Bennett III
David Brazier
John Daniel
Jatonne El-Amin
Dean Elko
Sandra Hernandez
Krishna Parsanlall
Eric Stock

5 Years
Jamie Bond
Patricia Dean
Marshall Dunn

Survey Excellence
Danielle Bryant
Glen Carson
Joseph Cotten
Terry Dean

Civilians of the Quarter



Julius Jackson

Julius Jackson, mid-grade civilian of the quarter, is an electronics technician in the Survey Support Branch. When not aboard USNS Sumner, he maintains ship spares inventories and repairs survey equipment.

Jackson worked tirelessly following Hurricane Katrina to help distribute food and rehabilitate housing for hurricane victims. He then volunteered for extra sea duty, so other NAVO shipriders could return home after the storm.

Jackson is a 1994 graduate of Hancock County High School. He studied electronics technology in the Associate of Applied Science program at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

Jackson is an active volunteer in his church and community.

Jackson, his wife, Janice, and their two children live in Catahoula, Miss.

Jim Newman, senior grade civilian of the quarter, joined NAVO's Hydrographic Department in 1978. In the Survey Planning Division, Newman handles logistics for oceanographic surveys.

Newman's actions following Hurricane Katrina called for special recognition. Newman maintained contact with NAVO surveyors who were at sea when the hurricane struck, informing them how their families fared, helped arrange for them to return to care for their homes and coordinated assignments of their replacements.

"The fleet remained at sea surveying high priority requirements with negligible lost survey time, largely because of Newman's work," said Mark Jarrett.

Newman holds two bachelor's from Mississippi State University and a bachelor's and master's degree from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Newman resides in Gulfport with his wife, Patricia.



Jim Newman

175 Years of Excellence



Maury and the Hydrographic Office

Commander Matthew F. Maury, held the position of Hydrographer of the Navy from 1842 to 1861 and is credited with founding the science of oceanography. His system for collecting and using oceanographic data revolutionized navigation of the seas.

In 1842, Maury assumed command of the Navy's Depot of Charts and Instruments. Possessing an active, scientific mind, he immediately recognized possibilities for expanding the Depot's services.

He suggested that, if all shipmasters would submit reports of their experiences to a central agency, the data could be digested, compiled and published for the benefit of all. This idea became the basic formula of hydrographic offices throughout the world, making Maury's contributions a milestone in Naval oceanography.

Within five years, 26 million reports poured into the Depot, which originally had been intended only as a storehouse of charts and instruments.

In 1854, the agency was given the official name of The U.S. Naval Observatory and Hydrographical Office. In 1866, an Act of Congress separated the two functions, establishing the Hydrographic Office as a distinct activity. By this time the Office's mission had expanded to include "the carrying out of surveys, the collection of information and the printing of every kind of nautical chart or publication."

More to come in the next issue.

175th Freebies



For those who were unable to attend the 175th anniversary, you can pick up a commemorative booklet and sticker from the Public Affairs Office by calling 688-4002 or stopping by Bldg. 1100, Room 148.

Materials will be available at various events throughout the year.

Navy News

Winter Named 74th Secretary of the Navy

Donald C. Winter became the 74th Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) on Jan. 3. As SECNAV, Winter leads the Navy and Marine Corps Team and is responsible for almost 900,000 people and an annual budget over \$125 billion. Prior to joining the Bush administration, Winter served as a corporate vice president and president of Northrop Grumman's Mission Systems sector. Winter also served on the company's corporate policy council.



Secretary of the Navy
Dr. Donald C. Winter

Winter is responsible for all Department of the Navy affairs, including recruiting, organizing, supplying, equipping, training, mobilizing and demobilizing. He oversees the construction, outfitting and repair of naval ships, equipment and facilities and is also responsible for the formulation and implementation of naval policies and programs that are consistent with the national security policies and objectives

Awards, continued from page 11.

- Dean Elko
- Michael Garrison
- Todd Hancock
- Dan Mabie
- Vanessa Muhammad
- Krishna Parsanlall
- John Rogers
- Jan Saunders
- Jon Shepetis
- Tony Taylor
- Jack Vice
- Gary Watson

Navy Achievement Medal
AG1 Steele

Navy Commendation Medal
LT James Coleman
LT Ramon Martinez
AG1 John Runyan

Military Promotions
LTR David Colbert
LT Ramon Martinez

established by the President and the Secretary of Defense. Winter earned a bachelor's degree

(with highest distinction) in physics from the University of Rochester and a master's and a doctorate in physics from the University of Michigan. He is a graduate of the USC Management Policy Institute, the UCLA Executive Program, and the Harvard University Program for Senior Executives in National and International Security. He is an elected a member of the National

Academy of Engineering; "Protecting America against threats will remain our primary mission, a task that will require the service of warfighters who will never lose focus on the drive to victory," said Winter in his first message to the fleet as SECNAV. "The world has seen momentous changes in recent decades, and the Navy and Marine Corps must adapt to changing conditions."

Educational Outreach

NAVO Supports
2006 Hurricane Bowl

NAVOCEANO and CNMOC provided 30 volunteers for the Hurricane Bowl, the regional competition of the 2006 National Ocean Sciences Bowl, in February.

The regional bowl, open to all students in Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and the Florida panhandle, saw only 13 teams participate this year.

The quiz bowl-type questions focus solely on the ocean sciences. Each year, NAVOCEANO employees are also called to write challenging questions for the regional and national competition.

A Niceville, Fla., team earned first place at the Hurricane Bowl and will fly to San Diego, Calif., to represent the region at the national competition.

Health & Safety Matters

New Year's Health
Resolution:
Stop Smoking

In 2004, 44.5 million adults in the United States were current smokers. An estimated 70 percent said they wanted to quit. Each year, millions of adults include stopping smoking on their New Year's resolution lists.

Five Keys for Quitting Smoking

Studies show that these five steps will help you quit and quit for good. 1. **Get ready.** Set a quit date. Change your environment. Get rid of all cigarettes and ashtrays in your home, car and place of work. Don't let people smoke around you. Once you quit, don't smoke—NOT EVEN A PUFF!

2. **Get support and encouragement.** Studies have shown that you have a better chance of being successful if you have help. Tell your family, friends and co-workers you are going to quit and want their support. Ask them not to smoke around you or leave cigarettes out where you can see them. Counseling doubles your chances of success. Telephone counseling is available at 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

3. **Learn new skills and behaviors.** Try to distract yourself from urges to smoke. Talk to someone or go for a walk. When you first try to quit, change your routine. Do something to reduce your stress. Plan something enjoyable to do every day. Drink a lot of water and other fluids.

4. **Get medication and use it correctly.** Medications can help double your chances of stopping smoking and lessen the urge to smoke. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved over-the-counter and prescription medications to help you quit smoking. Talk to your doctor before taking medications.

5. **Be prepared for relapse or difficult situations.** Most relapses occur within the first three months after quitting. Don't be discouraged if you start smoking again. Most people try several times before they finally quit.

For more information, visit www.smokefree.gov or www.cdc.gov/tobacco.

NAVOCEANO Visitor

Nathman Visits NAVO for Katrina Briefing



NAVOCEANO received an important Naval figure during December, when ADM John B. Nathman, commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, visited RDML Timothy McGee.

ADM Nathman was briefed on the impact of Hurricane Katrina upon NAVOCEANO personnel and their families.

CAPT Brown greets ADM Nathman
at Building 1002.

Get Involved

Special Events and Activities Committee

By the Special Events and Activities Committee

There's more to the Special Events and Activities Committee (SEAC) than just raising money. SEAC is a relatively new unofficial organization at NAVOCEANO that assists with official and unofficial events at NAVOCEANO and in the Stennis community.

Last fall, the committee assisted with the Command Picnic and MWR's Halloween party. In November, we held a bake sale that raised money for the Holiday Open House, which paid for door prizes and film to take pictures of kids with Santa Claus.

This year, the committee plans to get started early on planning the 2006 Holiday Open House, which will also conclude NAVO's 175th anniversary year. We will also play an integral role in planning the command picnic in the fall and other events the committee chooses to initiate throughout the year.

We are currently raising money for the Special Olympics with a coin drive. Jars are located around NAVO buildings.

On game day each year, NAVOCEANO volunteers take photos of Special Olympians with their new or old

friends and sponsors. The athletes look forward to capturing these memories every year.

Unfortunately, funds do not exist this year to purchase the film needed to take these photos. However, SEAC has volunteered to staff the booth if they can raise enough money to pay for the 300 photos on game day.

All funds collected in the coin jars between now and April 1 will be donated to Special Olympics.

If you want to help, put a Special Olympics coin jar on your desk. Let a member know when you'd like them to pick it up.

If you're interested in joining SEAC or want to come to a meeting, talk to a member or call 688-4002.

SEAC members include Shannon Breland, Jacqueline Bussell, Tonja Campbell, Lanee Cooksey, Megan Corr, Billy Donelson, Mayra Santiago, Melissa Jones, Deanna Mitchell, Cathy Pope, Angelle Shaffette, Sharon Thomas, AGC Jason Thompson, Brenda Villalobos, Jim Welsh and AG1 Travis Younce.

Chaplain's Chat

Chaplain's Chat

By LCDR Macgregor McClellan, Navy Chaplain

Sunday, 29 January marked the 5-month anniversary of Katrina. In some ways it does not seem like that many months have rolled by, and in other ways, it seems like an eternity.

All around us, we see big and small changes to the area, but the indelible mark that Katrina left will be with us for months to come.

Katrina also left an indelible mark on our lives, one that we will never forget. As we discussed in the stress management classes, the cycle of grief takes time to process. As you go through the process, you will find that you may experience one stage more intensively than another and this is perfectly normal. Even at this 5-month stage, it would be normal to feel sad, angry and confused. But you do not have to suffer in silence or travel this road alone.

ADM Mullens, the Chief of Naval Operations, stated at the initiation of Task Force Navy Family that anyone involved with DoD, from those in uniform, to our civil service employees, to



LCDR Macgregor
McClellan

our contractors, are part of the Navy Family. And family included our most junior single sailor to our oldest retiree and everyone in between.

Many of you know that over in


Bldg. 1210, CBC Gulfport Fleet and Family Service Center is operating a satellite office. Currently, this area is housing a case manager and a clinician.

I am on the opposite end of the building in Rm. 105. My office number is 688-5668 or email me at macgregor.mcclellan@navy.mil.

See **Chaplain**, page 7.

175th Event

NAVOCEANO Celebrates CDR Matthew Fontaine Maury's 200th Birthday



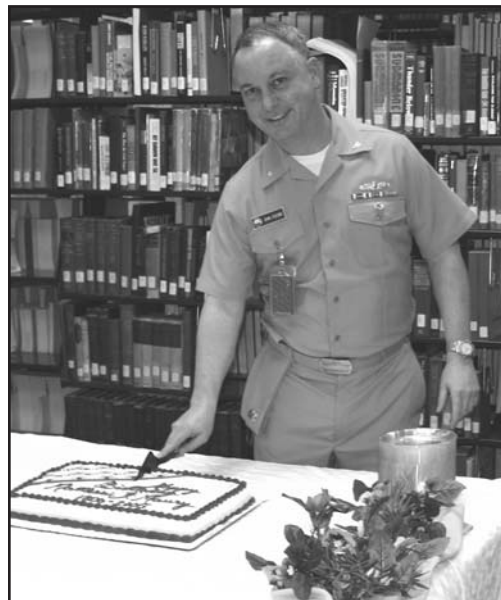
NAVOCEANO celebrated the 200th birthday of Matthew Fontaine Maury in January at the library named for the father of modern oceanography.

NAVOCEANO Executive Officer CAPT John Cousins spoke to a small crowd of employees about Maury, his life and his extensive work in the field of oceanography.

Referred to as the "Pathfinder of the Seas," CDR Matthew Fontaine Maury is credited with founding the science of

oceanography, formulating the idea of hydrographic offices throughout the world, publishing the "Wind and Current Chart of the North Atlantic" (which showed sailors how to use ocean currents and winds to their advantage) and standardizing the system of recording oceanographic data, adopted by navies and merchant marines around the world.

NAVOCEANO currently pays tribute to Maury with the T-AGS 60, or Pathfinder-class, multipurpose oceanographic survey ships and the Matthew Fontaine Maury Oceanographic Library.



Executive Officer CAPT John Cousins prepares to serve cake on Maury's 200th birthday.

175th Event



Kim Maddox (left) and Jared Freeman, both of the Systems Definition branch (N641), share a laugh with N6 Department Director Mark Boston over breakfast.

NAVO Employees Appreciate the Thought...and the Breakfast



This Valentine's Day, department directors showed their appreciation for their employees by serving them all a complimentary breakfast on the go.

As part of the ongoing celebration of the 175th anniversary of NAVOCEANO, 2006 started with a tribute to employees.

Many leaders agree that "an organization is only as good as the people that make it up" and "an organization's people are its great-

est asset."

After breakfast, some department heads continued to show their appreciation in other ways throughout the day by doing other things for their employees.

The celebration of the 175th anniversary will continue throughout 2006 with several small events honoring important dates and achievements in NAVO's history.

The breakfast food was provided by the Special Events and Activities Committee.

In Our Community

NAVO, CNMOC Help Rebuild Playground

Several Navy personnel at Stennis assisted in building a playground at Waveland Elementary in Bay St. Louis, Miss., in January.

Although Navy employees donated their time and labor, the necessary money for materials came from students in four Williamsburg, Va., schools.

Through a coin drive, the students raised \$23,000 in cash and supplies to

pay for the playground equipment.

Volunteers included NAVO's Mark Boston, Greg Noll, Tom Wissing, CNMOC's AGCM Jon Johnston and Bruce Northridge, PDC's CDR Jim Berdeguez and PSI contractor John Reddick.

In Our Community

Special Olympics

The Area III Games of the Special Olympics will be held at Stennis Space Center on Saturday, 1 April.

Sponsorship of an athlete is only \$20 and buys lunch, ribbons and two T-shirts (one for the athlete and one for the sponsor). For more information, call 688-4963.

NAVOCEANO News

MSRC Upgrades

In 2004, a series of computing upgrades were completed at the Major Shared Resource Center (MSRC) for High Performance Computing. These upgrades tripled the computing capability of the center to exceed 30 trillion calculations per second. In 2005, competitive acquisition was begun for a similarly large upgrade which is again expected to double or triple the effective MSRC computing capability. The new systems will be announced in February 2006 and will be fully operational in late summer 2006.

NAVOCEANO News

Contracting and Logistics Services Help Keep NAVO Shipping Out

At Building 9134, about 25 personnel in the Contracting and Logistics Services Division (N11) are in the complicated business of making NAVOCEANO run smoothly.

At N11, goods and services are purchased, contracts are monitored and thousands of pounds of equipment and supplies are shipped out, received and stored each year.

"This is where a lot of work gets done," said Brenda Benny, a senior contract specialist. Benny is also the NAVOCEANO contract administrator for the Mississippi Research Consortium, which provides Navy at Stennis with technical assistance from Mississippi's four largest public universities.

Contracts are among the numerous programs handled by N11, which operates under Don Hutchison. Each year, thousands of items necessary for smooth operation pass through his division.

The Inventory/Technical Branch works with the Defense Property Accounting System, which keeps tabs on a government-wide inventory database covering 17,000 items valued at \$180 million.

"Working here is a challenge we enjoy," said Imogene Stubbs, a supply specialist.

Elsewhere in the building, Mae Haywood supervises operations at the sprawling N11 warehouse, which covers

Navy News

Navy Cracks Down on Cell Phone Usage

The Navy will now issue warnings to all motorists who are pulled over for using non-hands-free cell phones while driving on Navy bases.

This restriction follows a Department of Defense regulation banning the use of non-hands-free cell phones on military installations unless the vehicle is safely parked.

The Defense Department developed the regulation based on a study by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which found cell phone use to be the fastest growing and most

visible cause of automobile accidents caused by distracted driving.

Restriction will be implemented in three phases: Education and Awareness, Enforcement (starting March 1) and Active Enforcement.

The restriction applies to service members, their families, civilian employees and visitors who drive on Navy installations.

This new regulation does not yet apply to Stennis Space Center. However, a similar regulation may be implemented at a later date.

nearly 80,000 square feet of interior storage and 55,200 square feet of exterior storage.

Haywood is the custodian of thousands of items stored for NAVOCEANO, Fleet Survey Team and CNMOC including four out-of-service hydrographic survey launches, security safes, computers, canisters of film, ship captain chairs and outboard motors.

"It may be out of sight, but it's not out of mind," Haywood said.

Activities at the warehouse range from the commonplace to the highly specialized. The staff includes a contract parachute rigger, who readies and packs parachutes used to drop oceanographic tracking buoys from airplanes worldwide, and a carpenter, who custom-builds wooden crates used to ship electronics and survey equipment to the NAVOCEANO fleet around the globe.

Once packed and ready to go, those shipments become the responsibility of the Transportation branch. They schedule shipments of all sizes that are air freighted worldwide, often on extremely tight time schedules. Since NAVOCEANO ships seldom remain in foreign



Part of the N11 staff (left to right) Row 1: Mona Fletcher, Gene Stubbs, Linda Holmes and Kay Berry. Row 2: Kaye Thomas, Brenda Benny, Sheree Jones, Judy Penton, SK2 Alonzo Woods, Eula Woods, Jonathan Stanton.

ports long, the job demands precise advance planning.

"Ordinarily, we have to meet a four-day window to get equipment on and off the ships," King said. "That doesn't give us much room for mistakes."

To the personnel at N11, managing the hundreds of small details that keep NAVOCEANO on track is all in a day's work.

"We ship tons of equipment all over the world," said Woods. "There's never a dull moment around here, I can tell you that."

News in Brief

-The preplanning process for NAVOCEANO's **A-76** study was placed on hold after Hurricane Katrina. The study is still on hold. More information will follow in the coming weeks.

-Visit www.govbenefits.gov for information about civil service **benefits**.

-For Katrina survivors who need help with tax matters, the **IRS** has a toll free number to call, 1-866-562-5227. It's a one-stop shop for disaster victims. Visit www.irs.gov for even more help.

-All **NSPS training** for Navy personnel has been postponed until further notice.

-NAVOCEANO is resuming its funding ceiling and policy ("**the \$200 rule**") regarding the use of area airports, usually Gulfport vs. New Orleans. Travelers may use any area airport as long as the cost difference is not more than \$200 round trip than the cost of a comparable flight out of another airport. The rule is effective with new air travel booked on or after 1 February 2006.

-In accordance with Department of Defense policy, increased **random drug testing** of personnel in testing-designated positions will take place in fiscal year 2006.

NAVOCEANO News

NAVO Leftovers Meet in Maryland

By Ben Surratt, former employee and leader of the Leftovers

Again, a group known as the NAVOCEANO Leftovers met for their annual get-together as they have for the last 25 years on the first Friday of December.

However, this year was different, because the ranks of attendees increased from 110 to 132 – 11% more leftovers. Also, the number of nonagenarians in attendance rose dramatically. No, free vitamins were not being passed out.

CAPT Jeffrey Best, the former commanding officer of NAVOCEANO was there to brief the leftovers. The Captain informed us of the grim results of Hurricane Katrina, but how the Office is

Navy News

Standard Federal ID Will Replace CACs

By Sgt. Sara Wood, Armed Forces Press Service

A new, standardized identification card is being developed for all federal employees. The new card will replace the common access cards (CACs) that military personnel, government civilians and contractors now hold, Mary Dixon, deputy director of the Defense Manpower Data Center, said.

According to Dixon, the new cards will look much like CACs, with a few changes. The color scheme of the card will be different and more information will be embedded in the card. The added information on the card will be a biometric of two fingerprints to be used for identification purposes and a string of numbers that will allow physical access to buildings.

The biggest change on the new cards will be the addition of wireless technology, which will allow the cards to be read by a machine from a short distance away, Dixon said.

The is will make the new cards much easier to use for access to buildings than CACs, which must be swiped through a reader. The new cards themselves will not be enough to grant access to all federal buildings, Dixon said. Rather, they

will be checked against each building's database to determine if an individual has access.

One benefit of the new cards will be that each individual will have to meet the same security standards to get the card, so there is a level of confidence implied, Dixon said.

"It means that I can have more trust in somebody else's credential, because I will know that they met at least some basic minimum standards for issuing that card," she said. "I will know that they did the proofing of the person and they made sure they were issuing it to the right person, and they did some background vetting on that person. They're not just issuing it to some person that appears on the scene."

A prototype of the new card is being developed now and will be finalized in the next couple months, Dixon said. The cards will be issued starting in October to all military personnel, government civilians and qualified contractors.

In the Defense Department, all employees should have the new cards within three to three and a half years, she said. A timeline has not been set for the rest of the federal government.



Ben Surratt and former NAVOCEANO Commanding Officer CAPT Jeffrey Best. (submitted photo)

this year to meet old friends and coworkers, enjoy a good lunch, and, possibly, cart home a door prize.

For more information, call Ben Surratt on (301) 736-8054.

In Our Community

NAVO's Suzy Dyle Spreads Holiday Cheer in Pearl River County

More than 100 foster children in Pearl River County had a brighter Christmas because of Suzy Dyle and her NAVOCEANO coworkers.

Each year, Dyle, a Picayune resident, works with the Mississippi Department of Human Services (DHS) to make certain that foster children in Pearl River County receive gifts and necessary personal items at Christmas.

Employees at NAVOCEANO and other Stennis Space Center agencies donate about 600 gifts to the "Adopt-a-Foster Kid" program each year.

"It's all in the spirit of giving and sharing," said Dyle, a physical scientist who has worked at NAVOCEANO for 24 years.

Pearl River County currently has about 125 foster children living in licensed foster homes, with family members, or in residential treatment facilities or group homes. Most have come under state care after being neglected or abused.

Tana Walker, an area DHS social work supervisor, provides Dyle with a list containing the first name, age and gender of foster children. Walker notes the child's



Suzy Dyle

more serious needs, such as clothing, shoes or toiletries, as well as specific toys the youngster hopes to receive at Christmas. She also adds any special needs or talents the child has, such as instruments for budding musicians or sports items for school athletes.

"It's really a plethora of things, depending upon the age of the child," Dyle said.

Once she receives the list, Dyle relays the information by e-mail to her coworkers. Donors are matched with the children they want to "adopt." Donors pur-

chase and wrap the goods and deliver them to Dyle, who sends them with help from fellow coworkers to Walker's office in Pearl River County. Workers from DHS then distribute gifts to the children through their foster homes.

Dyle said the gifting experience is valuable to both donors and the children.

"Many of these kids don't have anything," she said. "The fact that gifts are coming to them from someone they've never even met can mean a great deal. And often, our employees will select foster kids who are the same age as their own children, so they can involve their kids in the giving."

2005 was Dyle's fourth Christmas to collect gifts for foster children.

Dyle recalls the spirit of Christmas when she was growing up as the youngest of six children. She has no children herself but does have numerous nieces and nephews. She understands the importance of a special Christmas gift, given from the heart.

"The first year, I just got a tremendous response," she said. "The generosity and love that the Stennis community has in helping others is really overwhelming."

NAVO's Campbell Leads Effort to Share Christmas With Others



Tonja Campbell (center) enlisted the help of her coworkers, Darla Cuevas (left) and Michelle Ransom (right), to assist with the all the holiday decorations she received.

Hurricane Katrina left more than 1,000 Navy military and civilian families homeless on the Mississippi coast, but an idea by NAVOCEANO's Tonja Campbell brought Christmas cheer to many.

Campbell, who works in Survey Operations, began creating homemade Christmas stockings and decorations to make the holidays brighter for the displaced living in trailers. She also contacted Dotti Lantis, a friend in New Mexico who made others.

Campbell received contributions from Operation Homefront, Combat Service Support Detachment 1 San Diego, Navy

Seabee Veterans Southeast District and the NCBC Gulfport Fleet and Family Service Center. Many stockings were stuffed with presents, toys and Wal-Mart gift cards.

Her efforts resulted in volunteers distributing 552 Christmas stockings and 1,000 ornaments along the coast, from Stennis Space Center to Pascagoula, Miss.

Operation Homefront also donated 10 full-sized mobile homes for hurricane victims. (The NAVOCEANO Housing Office is handling logistics.)

"So many people lost everything in the hurricane," Campbell said. "I think this helped a little bit."

Navy Ball Fundraiser

“Hey! There’s a finger in my chili!”

Annual Navy Ball Chili Cook-off Winners Named

The annual NAVOCEANO Chili Cook-Off is consistently one of the Navy Ball committee’s most enjoyable and profitable fundraisers.

This year proved to be no exception with entries like “Wendy’s Finger-lickin’ Chili,” where you found a finger and won a prize, and “Jay’s Slightly Better than Hormel Chili” with “cow parts” listed as the first ingredient.

The winners were:

- Best Tasting: Sue Sebastian
- Hottest: Shelia Voss
- Most Original: Amanda McKee
- People’s Choice: Brenda Villalobos



Maggie South (N413) serves AG1 Adam Froehlig her chili.

For Your Benefit

NSPS Update

Mike Owens, Human Resources

Final regulations for NSPS were issued on 1 Nov. 2005. A coalition of employee unions filed a suit to halt implementation of NSPS in mid-November. Arguments for and against NSPS implementation were presented in court on 24 Jan.

On 27 Feb., the judge hearing the case enjoined DoD from implementing several sub-parts of the regulations. These included the regulations governing labor relations, adverse actions and appeals and the establishment of a National Security Labor Relations Board. The judge hearing the case agreed DoD has authority to establish a labor relations system within DoD, but indicated that the regulations failed to preserve collective bargaining.

DoD has announced its intentions to appeal the ruling and proceed with implementing unchallenged parts of the system (e.g., pay banding and pay-for-performance) at designated commands in April. Presently, FFC activities (including NAVOCEANO) are still scheduled to implement NSPS this October. More to follow.

Upcoming Events

Area III **Special Olympics** will be held at Stennis Space Center on Saturday, 1 April.

On the afternoon of Friday, 21 April, to commemorate the **40th anniversary of SSC’s first rocket engine test**, NASA will conduct a public viewing of a space engine test firing. More than 3,000 people are expected to attend the viewing and peruse exhibits. Be aware of the increased traffic as you leave for the day.

The SSC Wellness Center’s annual **Spring Games** begin 1 May. Get a group together and compete!

Monday, 29 May is **Memorial Day**, a federal holiday.

Activities surrounding **Take Our Children to Work Day** are being discussed. Details will be made available as they are finalized.

Chaplain, continued from page 5.

We are here, working together as a team, to serve you and assist you as you go through the recovery process.

I have had the pleasure of speaking with many of you on the phone, and some I have had the honor of meeting in person. You will begin to see me more walking around the workspaces. This is so that you can have greater access to me.

Feel free to stop me at any time to talk. We will find a wall to lean against and talk for a few minutes. If you need to come by my office, give me a call or email me, and we will set up a time.

Everyone needs someone that you can just vent on, and I am that person. If you are not sure what a chaplain looks like, I am pretty easy to spot, I wear a cross on the left-side of the collar. I look forward to meeting many more of you over the time period that I am here

MIW, continued from page 1.

fied key objectives of Sea Trial initiatives: (1) SMC MV UUV Employment and (2) Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) MIW Mission Modules Employed from Transformational Vessels in Support of LCS Development. (Sea Trial is the Navy’s collaborative effort to formalize and fully integrate concept development and technical insertion into the experimentation process.) The LCS is a new breed of fast, agile, and networked warships that will operate with focused-mission packages (including MIW), which deploy manned and unmanned vehicles



HUGIN 1000 Autonomous Underwater Vehicle

Navy News

Stennis’ Own Serves as Ceremony Speaker



NAVOCEANO Technical Director Mr. Charles Martinek presents guest speaker Ms. Bobbie Keys with a token of appreciation at the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day ceremony.

Ms. Bobbie Keys served as guest speaker at the annual NAVOCEANO Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day ceremony on 17 January.

Ms. Keys is a native of Picayune, Miss., and has worked for Madison Services at Stennis Space Center for

seven years.

Ms. Keys traveled throughout the country as an evangelist for 30 years with her husband, William, who died in 1998.

Since his death, she has continued her evangelism through public speaking and singing at events such as these.

to execute missions as assigned by combatant commanders.

NAVOCEANO MIW Division’s goal is to replace the current bottom-mapping workstation (BMW) presently installed aboard the High Speed Vessel (HSV) Swift with the new Environmental Post-mission Analysis System (EPMA), which is slated for the LCS platform. As part of this cooperative engagement, Coward was able to demonstrate the EPMA’s software tools to the UUV Platoon and others.

The experiment also featured operations involving the UUV platoon’s two vehicles and the Royal Norwegian Navy’s HUGIN 1000 AUV. The three UUVs operated simultaneously in an operating area seeded with mine-like targets. Contacts detected by HUGIN were passed to the CMWC UUV Platoon onboard R/V Leonardo for “on-the-fly” redirection of REMUS UUVs

for reacquisition. The successful technique paves the way for development of more sophisticated multiple vehicle tactics, techniques and procedures.

“This collaborative effort will serve as a model for future efforts,” said Scott Price, assistant chief of staff for MIW Programs at CMWC. “Through thorough planning and close coordination across a number of agencies, we were able to develop a program that satisfied objectives for numerous programs.”

Data analysis by NURC, CMWC and NSWC PC is ongoing. NAVOCEANO’s Hallie Graves provided NAVOCEANO’s final analysis and products to brief RDML Deb Loewer, commander, MIW Command in January.

The synergy resulting from CMWC UUV Platoon participation in the experimentation provides a solid foundation for further collaboration and fosters improved interoperability among NATO navies employing AUVs and UUVs in an MCM role.

A similar combined effort will occur in the Pacific during RIMPAC 06.

In the Community

Throw me something, Lt. Commander?

They may have a crawfish as part of their logo, but the Fleet Survey Team (FST) could not truthfully claim to be “born on the bayou” until they made their community debut in the Krewe of Nereids parade in Bay St. Louis on 19 February.

Cathy Pope of NAVOCEANO’s Geospatial Databasing and Delivery Branch, who coordinated the 2006 Krewe of Nereids, wanted a strong Navy presence in the parade and invited NAVOCEANO and FST to participate. Representatives from



Executive Officer of Fleet Survey Team LCDR Rich Delgado lets go of some throws at the Krewe of Nereids parade in Waveland, Miss.

both commands took part in the festivities.